

CITY OF YORK HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

28 East Market Street
York, PA 17401

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

March 16, 2015

Call to order:

Commissioner Fitch calls the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call:

In attendance- Commissioners: Fitch, Sawor, Sexton, Rhodes, Williams, Chamberlin, Woerthwein. Quorum met.

Not in attendance- Commissioner Moore and Rivera.

Staff present- Thompson-Morgan and Ramirez.

Public Comment:

No public comments.

Approval of Minutes:

February minutes moved for approval by Commissioner Woerthwein, Sexton seconds. All in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Chamberlin moves to approve Social Media Committee minutes. All in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Sexton moves to approve the County-wide Planning Committee minutes. All in favor, motion carries.

Report of Acting Chair:

Commissioner Fitch was in contact with Attorney Zimmerman-PHRC about the work share agreement. A discussion took place about the changes and questions that were answered by PHRC. Follow-up questions will be submitted to Attorney Zimmerman.

The CYHRC Annual Report to Council is due to City Council in May. Commissioner Fitch requests that Committees report what they have done over the past year to be included in the Annual report.

Commissioner Chamberlin has been appointed as Secretary/Treasurer to complete R. Lilly's unexpired term.

Report of Acting Secretary/Treasurer:

Commissioner Chamberlain reports that no significant changes stand out. A meeting is scheduled with Business Administration on March 26 to discuss the allocations that are higher than others.

Budget and Finance- Commissioner Chamberlin discusses grants and funding opportunities. She explains that the HRC is in the processes to receive HUD certification; she suggests Commissioner Rhodes to be the point of contact person with HUD.

Grants.gov is a search engine for funding opportunities.

RAYAC has an annual funding grant for education/outreach for housing issues.

Please contact Commissioner Chamberlin with any grant information found so she can follow up on them.

Case Status Report:

Mrs. Thompson-Morgan reports an update on the status report on current cases; report is reviewed and discussed. Three cases submitted for closure:

Commissioner Williams moves to close case H-221, Sawor seconds. All in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Chamberlin moves to close case E-884, Williams seconds. All in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Sexton moves to close case E-887, Sawor seconds. All in favor, motion carries.

Report of Standing Committees

Personnel Committee Report- Committee met and discussed the Commission as a whole. Commissioner Williams met with staff to discuss concerns. Staff will assist in building a list of contacts and gathering info.

Commissioner Williams requests the committees to schedule through staff and forward them any information pertaining to committee meetings so the office can keep a record. Committee emails are to be sent to all members and CC: to all other Commissioners.

Planning and Community Outreach Committee Report- Commissioner Rhodes reports that the committee is scheduled to meet March 19 from 5:30-6:30 at Martin Library.

Four Housing workshops on Landlord/Tenant issues will be scheduled in April for National Fair Housing Month. Details TBD.

Outreach efforts include appearances with local agencies/clubs to try to rebound. RAYAC, Rotary Club, ect.

Race to Racism scheduled for April 25. Commissioner Rhodes would like to be more involved. Discussion takes place. A motion to sponsor 20 runners for the YWCA Race against Racism in the amount of \$300 expenditure using the Athletic Association Youth Grant Fund for students ages 17 and under was moved by Commissioner Rhodes, seconded by Woerthwein. All in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Rhodes will be attending a training at Widener College. Marc Summerson-PHRC will do a short presentation to educate current police force. Rhodes recommends the HRC participate in local police trainings. Similar training, York County Police Consortium Diversity Training, details TBD.

Hispanic Heritage Month- September 15-October 15. Commissioner Rhodes suggests having a Latino influential people project for this month. The last segment would include the HRC sharing information about our services.

Nominating and Leadership Development Committee- Two candidates interested in the vacant seats, Cheril Chronister and Jeanne Buckingham. Ms. Buckingham will be interviewed by the Committee.

Commissioner Fitch motions to moves forward with Ms. Chronister to fulfill the unexpired term for the CYHRC effective after confirmation of City Council, Woerthwein seconds. Commissioner Sawor opposes, majority is in favor. Motion carries.

The following terms are up to expire in July 2015, please notify the Chair with your decision to extend your term or not:

Commissioner Sawor

Commissioner Williams

Commissioner Fitch

Unexpired term for Commissioner Chronister

Social Media Committee Report- Commissioner Sawor suggests to have contact with someone in the City to verify if having a separate website for the HRC is okay. A discussion about an individual website included the way it looks; the focus being the main tabs to be housing, employment, public accommodation, and basic info. Links are available through the webpage, as well as forms. The website should also include posts about community events.

YDR offers a Community Column for anyone to write letters to the Editor. This could be done on a monthly basis for free exposure and to make people aware of where they could go for information about our services.

The City webpage and Facebook are currently the HRC main outlets.

Communications:

The agenda packet is reviewed, along with the case docket report and the non- jurisdictional reports.

Commissioner Fitch suggests staff visit local businesses to introduce themselves and deliver the Employment Provision Notices. Housing Provision Notices can also be delivered to any apartment complexes within City limits starting in April.

The Cultural Alliance of York County denied the grant application request for the 2015 Creative Impact Community Award Grant.

Membership to the Southern Poverty Law Center is due. Commissioner Sexton moves to renew the \$100 annual membership, Woerthwein seconds. All in favor, motion carries.

Unfinished Business:

None.

New Business:

None.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Chamberlin moves to adjourn meeting, Williams seconds.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by J.R.